

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT
SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 5
June 30, 2011

Fisheries under consideration:	Treaty Indian commercial salmon
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STOCK STATUS

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

- Upper Columbia summer Chinook are destined for areas above Priest Rapids Dam. Chinook passing Bonneville Dam during June 16 through July 31 are considered upper Columbia summer Chinook. These Chinook are not listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the population is considered healthy.
- The 2011 forecast of 91,100 adults to the Columbia River mouth is 126% of the 2010 return of 72,300 adults, and would represent the highest return since at least 1980.
- As of June 29, 33,230 adult upper Columbia summer Chinook have passed Bonneville Dam.

Sockeye

- The 2011 sockeye forecast of 161,900 fish to the Columbia River mouth is considered a strong run compared to the 10-year average of 126,000 fish. The forecast includes 33,000 Wenatchee stock, 126,800 Okanogan stock, and 2,100 Snake River sockeye.
- Bonneville Dam passage through June 29 totals 79,063 sockeye. The 50% passage date is around June 24. The sockeye run appears to be late timed however.

Run size Updates

- TAC met yesterday, but did not update the Chinook or sockeye run sizes. TAC will meet on July 5 and update the runs.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Management Agreements

- The 2008-2017 *U.S. v Oregon* Management Agreement (MA) provides specific fishery management guidelines for treaty and non-treaty summer season fisheries.
- The harvest rate schedule for Chinook was shown in Fact Sheet #1
- The impact limit on the 2011 Columbia River return ESA listed sockeye is 7% (11,300 fish) for treaty Indian fisheries.

2011 Treaty Indian Fisheries

- Based on preseason forecasts and corresponding ESA impact limits, treaty Indian fisheries are allocated a total of 27,136 adult summer Chinook and 11,300 sockeye.

- The platform hook and line fishery in Zone 6 is ongoing for both commercial and subsistence purposes and expected to continue through the summer season, and does not require Compact action.
- Yakama tributary fisheries are also ongoing, which may include the Little White Salmon River (Drano Lake), and the Wind, White Salmon, Klickitat, and Icicle rivers. These fisheries do not require Compact action.
- The platform hook and line fishery downstream of Bonneville Dam is open under regulations in accordance with the appropriate MOA or MOU specific to each tribe. This fishery is expected to remain open throughout the summer season.
- The preliminary harvest in the first two commercial gillnet openings is shown in the table below. An updated projection for this week's fishery based on the last two week's catch is shown also.

Fishery	Nets	Chinook Adults	Steelhead	Sockeye	Sturgeon	Walleye
6/16-6/18	322	4,230	139	602	44	28
6/20-6/23	350	3,390	169	1,324	63	27
Subtotal		7,620	308	2,277	107	57
6/27-6/30 <i>Projected</i>	364	4,200	500	1,600		
Total		11,820	808	3,877		

- The tribes are reserving 300 Chinook and 2,500 sockeye to ensure platform fisheries can continue through July.

FISHERY RECOMMENDATIONS

<i>2011 Treaty Indian Summer Chinook Commercial Fishery</i>		
Season	6 AM Tuesday July 5 to 6 PM Friday July 8	(3.5 days)
Area	Zones 6	
Sanctuaries:	Standard river mouth and dam sanctuaries apply. No Spring Creek sanctuary is necessary this time of year.	
Gear:	Gill nets. No mesh restriction.	
Allowable Sales:	Salmon, steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be sold, but may be kept for subsistence purposes. Legal sized sturgeon are 38 to 54 inches in fork length from the Bonneville Pool, and from 43 to 54 inches fork length in The Dalles and John Day Pools.	
	Sales of fish caught during open period gillnet periods are allowed after the end of the open period, as long as the fish were landed during the open period.	
Additional:	24-hour quick reporting rule is in effect for Washington buyers.	

- The tribes project a harvest of 3,500 Chinook and 3,000 sockeye in a 3.5 day fishery next week (July 5 – 8). The tribes expect effort similar to this week's fishery. Tribal harvest is expected to total 15,620 Chinook and 9,377 sockeye (including actual and projected catch from all tribal fisheries). The harvest would be within the allowed catch limits for Chinook runs down to approximately 68,000 and sockeye run sizes as low as 140,000.
- The catch for next week is expected to remain well within the treaty harvest limits. Additional weekly openers are anticipated. The tribes will monitor catch and effort to ensure the fishery remains within management limits.
- Commercial gillnet opening are expected weekly throughout the summer season. Effort is expected to be high the first few weeks of the season, averaging around 350 nets; and then decrease as the season progresses. The tribes may utilize mesh size restrictions if needed.
- The tribes do not have an estimate of the sturgeon harvest for this week's fishery yet. The tribes have elected not to continue to allow the sale of legal sized sturgeon next week, but depending on the actual catches this week, may authorize sales later if sufficient numbers of commercially harvestable sturgeon remain on the guidelines.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- The tribes may request a Compact Hearing on July 7 or 8 to consider additional tribal commercial fisheries.